

ON DISPATCH

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Front	Edit	Other
Page	Page	Page

Date:

JFK Alert to Mr. K's "Overtures"

While President-elect John F. Kennedy responded cordially to Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev's greetings for the new year and expressions of peace and friendship between the United States and Soviet Russia, he is completely aware of the intents and purposes of the antics of the "keeper of the Kremlin."

The man who will be installed as the next President was terse in his reply to the Russian leader who proposed contacts in 1961 between the U.S.A. and the USSR on a "new and reasonable basis." Mr. Kennedy, briefed constantly by Central Information Agency, is quite aware that the core of Soviet propaganda remains the destruction of capitalism, "colonialism and imperialism." Mr. Kennedy is not naive, far from it. He knows the score and was merely following protocol when he replied to Mr. Khrushchev and uttered his appreciation of the Russian's New Year's greetings and expressed the hope that "in coming months relations between our two great countries will be marked by good will and common desire for peace."

There is no question in our minds that the President-elect desires world peace, but we can't place too much faith in the expressions of the premier of Russia.

He hasn't curtailed his efforts in colonization of the Congo; evidence has piled up of Communistic influence in the Laos and Belgium disturbances and no one will doubt that the harangues of the egomaniac ruler of Cuba are Russian-inspired.

While there are strong indications of perilous times ahead we can, with reserve, gain some measure of relief from a report by Gen. C. P. Cabell, deputy director of CIA, who does not see a global war breaking out in the Far East and that no nuclear war is in the immediate offing.

Gen. Cabell in his assessment of the Soviet intentions during the new year reports that "our best intelligence judgment is that the Soviet leaders have themselves acquired enough common sense to recognize that if they were to launch a military attack, they would suffer crippling devastation in return. We believe that the Soviets foresee a period of so-called 'mutual deterrence' when neither side has a distinct military superiority—a period called by the Soviets as 'peaceful co-existence.'"

But while this peaceful co-existence continues the Russians will do their utmost to try to keep us off balance and perhaps attempt to knock us out without resorting to military action. That's why they are anxious for a summit meeting in the spring, that explains their bombastic conduct in the halls of the UN and you can be assured there will be strong evidence of Russian propaganda tomorrow in UN Security Council.

Tomorrow is the day the council will begin hearing charges of Prime Minister Fidel Castro that the U. S. is contemplating an invasion of his tattered Cuba.